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(2) Establish other means of reporting for those vessels unable to report on the designated frequency; or

(3) Require reports from a vessel in sufficient time to allow advance vessel traffic planning.

(b) All reports required by this part shall be made as soon as is practicable on the frequency designated in Table 161.12(b) (VTS Call Signs, Designated Frequencies, and Monitoring Areas).

(c) When not exchanging communications, a VMRS User must maintain a listening watch as described in § 26.04(e) of this chapter on the frequency designated in Table 161.12(b) (VTS Call Signs, Designated Frequencies, and Monitoring Areas). In addition, the VMRS User must respond promptly when hailed and communicate in the English language.

NOTE: As stated in 47 CFR 80.148(b), a VHF watch on Channel 16 (156.800 MHz) is not required on vessels subject to the Vessel Bridge-to-Bridge Radiotelephone Act and participating in a Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) system when the watch is maintained on both the vessel bridge-to-bridge frequency and a designated VTS frequency.

(d) When reports required by this part include time information, such information shall be given using the local time zone in effect and the 24-hour military clock system.

§ 161.19 Sailing Plan (SP).

Unless otherwise stated, at least 15 minutes before navigating a VTS area, a vessel must report the:

- (a) Vessel name and type;
- (b) Position;
- (c) Destination and ETA;
- (d) Intended route;
- (e) Time and point of entry; and
- (f) Dangerous cargo on board or in its tow, as defined in § 160.203 of this chapter, and other required information as set out in § 160.211 and § 160.213 of this chapter, if applicable.

§ 161.20 Position Report (PR).

A vessel must report its name and position:

- (a) Upon point of entry into a VTS area;
- (b) At designated reporting points as set forth in subpart C; or
- (c) When directed by the VTC.

NOTE: Notice of temporary reporting points, if established, may be published via

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Local Notices to Mariners, general broadcast or the VTS User's Manual.

§ 161.21 Sailing Plan Deviation Report (DR).

A vessel must report:

(a) When its ETA to a destination varies significantly from a previously reported ETA;

(b) Any intention to deviate from a VTS issued measure or vessel traffic routing system; or

(c) Any significant deviation from previously reported information.

§ 161.22 Final Report (FR).

A vessel must report its name and position:

- (a) On arrival at its destination; or
- (b) When leaving a VTS area.

§ 161.23 Reporting exemptions.

(a) Unless otherwise directed, the following vessels are exempted from providing Position and Final Reports due to the nature of their operation:

(1) Vessels on a published schedule and route;

(2) Vessels operating within an area of a radius of three nautical miles or less; or

(3) Vessels escorting another vessel or assisting another vessel in maneuvering procedures.

(b) A vessel described in paragraph (a) of this section must:

(1) Provide a Sailing Plan at least 5 minutes but not more than 15 minutes before navigating within the VTS area; and

(2) If it departs from its promulgated schedule by more than 15 minutes or changes its limited operating area, make the established VMRS reports, or report as directed.

(c) In those VTS areas capable of receiving automated position reports from Automatic Identification System Shipborne Equipment (AISSE) as required by § 164.43 of this chapter and where AISSE is required, vessels equipped with an operating AISSE are not required to make voice radio position reports at designated reporting points as required by § 161.20(b) of this part, unless otherwise directed by the VTC.

(1) Whenever an AISSE becomes non-operational as defined in § 164.43(c) of

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this chapter, before entering or while underway in a VTS area, a vessel must:

- (i) Notify the VTC;
- (ii) Make voice radio position reports at designated reporting points as required by § 161.20(b) of this part;
- (iii) Make other voice radio reports as directed; and
- (iv) Restore the AISSE to operating condition as soon as possible.

(2) Whenever an AISSE becomes non-operational due to a loss of position correction information (i.e., the U.S. Coast Guard differential global positioning system (dGPS) cannot provide the required error correction messages) a vessel must:

- (i) Make required voice radio position reports at designated reporting points required by § 161.20(b) of this part; and
- (ii) Make other voice radio reports as directed.

NOTE: Regulations pertaining to AISSE required capabilities are set forth in § 164.43 of this chapter.

[CGD 90-020, 59 FR 36324, July 15, 1994, as amended by CGD 97-023, 62 FR 33364, June 19, 1997]

Subpart C—Vessel Traffic Service Areas, Cooperative Vessel Traffic Service Area, Vessel Traffic Service Special Areas and Reporting Points

NOTE: All geographic coordinates contained in part 161 (latitude and longitude) are expressed in North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83).

§ 161.25 Vessel Traffic Service New York Area.

The area consists of the navigable waters of the Lower New York Harbor bounded on the east by a line drawn from Norton Point to Breezy Point; on the south by a line connecting the entrance buoys at the Ambrose Channel, Swash Channel, and Sandy Hook Channel to Sandy Hook Point; and on the southeast including the waters of Sandy Hook Bay south to a line drawn at latitude 40°25'N.; then west into waters of the Raritan Bay to the Raritan River Rail Road Bridge; and then north including the waters of the Arthur Kill and Newark Bay to the Lehigh Valley Draw Bridge at latitude 40°41.9'N.; and then east including the waters of the

Kill Van Kull and Upper New York Bay north to a line drawn east-west from the Holland Tunnel Ventilator Shaft at latitude 40°43.7'N., longitude 74°01.6'W. in the Hudson River; and then continuing east including the waters of the East River to the Throgs Neck Bridge, excluding the Harlem River.

NOTE: Although mandatory participation in VTSNY is limited to the area within the navigable waters of the United States, VTSNY will provide services beyond those waters. Prospective users are encouraged to report beyond the area of required participation in order to facilitate advance vessel traffic management in the VTS area and to receive VTSNY advisories and/or assistance.

[CGD 92-052, 61 FR 45327, Aug. 29, 1996]

§ 161.30 Vessel Traffic Service Louisville.

The VTS area consists of the navigable waters of the Ohio River between McAlpine Locks (Mile 606.8) and Twelve Mile Island (Mile 593), only when the McAlpine upper pool gauge is at 13.0 feet or above.

[CGD 90-020, 59 FR 36324, July 15, 1994, as amended by USCG-1998-3799, 63 FR 35531, June 30, 1998]

§ 161.35 Vessel Traffic Service Houston/Galveston.

(a) The VTS area consists of the following major waterways and portions of connecting waterways: Galveston Bay Entrance Channel; Outer Bar Channel; Inner Bar Channel; Bolivar Roads Channel; Galveston Channel; Gulf ICW and Galveston-Freeport Cut-Off from Mile 346 to Mile 352; Texas City Channel; Texas City Turning Basin; Texas City Canal Channel; Houston Ship Channel; Bayport Channel; Bayport Turning Basin; Houston Turning Basin; and the following precautionary areas associated with these waterways.

(b) Precautionary Areas.

TABLE 161.35(B)—VTS HOUSTON/GALVESTON PRECAUTIONARY AREAS

Precautionary area name	Radius (yds.)	Center point	
		Latitude	Longitude
Bolivar Roads	4000	29°20.9'N	94°47.0'W
Red Fish Bar	4000	29°29.8'N	94°51.9'W
Bayport Channel.	4000	29°36.7'N	94°57.2'W